Workshop	Average monthly outturn in Four Wheeler Units.	
	Coaches	Wagons
Perambur (Loco) Works, Madras.	30	Nil
Perambur (Carriage & Wagon) Workshop, Madras.	310	496
Golden Rock Workshop. Tiruchirapalli.	158	45
Mysore Workshop, Mysore	44	Nil

(b) No coaches are being sent to Mancheswar Workshop from Southern Railway for repairs.

(c) AC coaches running on New Delhi—Puri trains and vice versa are checked properly at Puri and New Delhi before departure. Sometimes faults develope enroute and these are attended by the staff. There were 29 instances during the period from April to October, 1993 when gas filling was done in AC coaches of these trains at New Delhi/ Hazrat Nizamuddin before being despatched for return trip. Regular maintenance, both at Puri and New Delhi, is being done on the AC coaches in these trains.

(d) Adequate facilities for repairs of AC coaches as well as filling of gas in the form of AC coach maintenance shed including necessary machines, tools and spares alongwith requisite staff are available at New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin. Arrangements at Puri for gas refilling as well as repairs exist for AC Coaches. However, these are also being strengthened by way of a separate AC coach maintenance shed with pit and coach lifting arrangement for which work is in progress.

Performance of Railways

2967. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether conference of General Managers of Zonal Railways discussed the increase in rail accidents, loss of punctuality of trains and decline in traffic and deteriorating catering services on the Railways; and

(b) if so, what were the decisions taken at the conference to improve the Railways' performance in various fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rail accidents, punctuality in running of trains, traffic earnings, catering services were among the subjects discussed in the General Managers' conference held in November, 1993.

Appreciating the downward trends in train accidents, it was felt that there was no room for complacency and efforts should be continued to further improve the safety performance.

Improvement in train punctuality was noted and continuance of efforts to further improve the position was reiterated.

It was also decided that every effort should be made to meet the annual target of revenue earning freight traffic.

While improvement in catering is a continuous process, the need for intensive inspections was stressed to bring further improvement in catering services.

Running of Railway Museum

2968. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Railways is running a Railway Museum in New Delhi which is one of the only two Railway Museum in the World;

(b) whether it is a fact that such a unique museum is not kept properly and slowly it is deteriorating; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that no proper visiting time, no publicity to attract people and other measures has been taken to make this unique museum a tourist attraction with special attention for children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, there are many such Railway Museums in the world.

(b) No, Sir. The museum i.e. the exhibits and the premises are regularly maintained and efforts are made to keep them in a presentable condition throughout the year. There is no deterioration of the museum premises or the exhibits.

(c) No, Sir. The visiting timings fixed for the museum are from 9.30 A.M. to 05.30 P.M. The museum is regularly contacting various schools and a number of schools have made it a regular visiting place. The museum is a tourist attraction and the number of tourists visiting this museum has been an all time high during 1992.

Confiscation of Smuggled Sandalwood Consignment by GRP in Howrah Division

2969. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that GRP authorities in Howrah Division of Eastern Railway confiscated in the recent past a large consignment of sandal wood smuggled out of one of the Southern States and booked as Railway Parcel by Madras Mail ex: Jalarpettai station;

(b) if so, whether Government have initiated any investigation to identify the real consignor and consignee of said Parcel, if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that complaint alleging that a section of the GRP authorities at Howrah entered into clandestine deals to dispose of the confiscated consignment of sandal wood; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what are the details of action taken or proposed to be taken if any, by Government to prosecute the involved officials and also deter the members of GRP forces from indulging in/abetting pilferage of Railway property and the criminal acts, particularly in Howrah and Asansol Divisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED); (a) to (d) Registration, investigation, detection, and prevention of crimes on Railways is the responsibility of Government Railway Police which functions under the control of the respective State Government. It is therefore, for the Governments of West Bengal and Bihar to take necessary steps to prevent pilferage and to look into the complaints against the Government Railway Police. Information about specific incidents of theft in Railways is not maintained at the Central Government level.